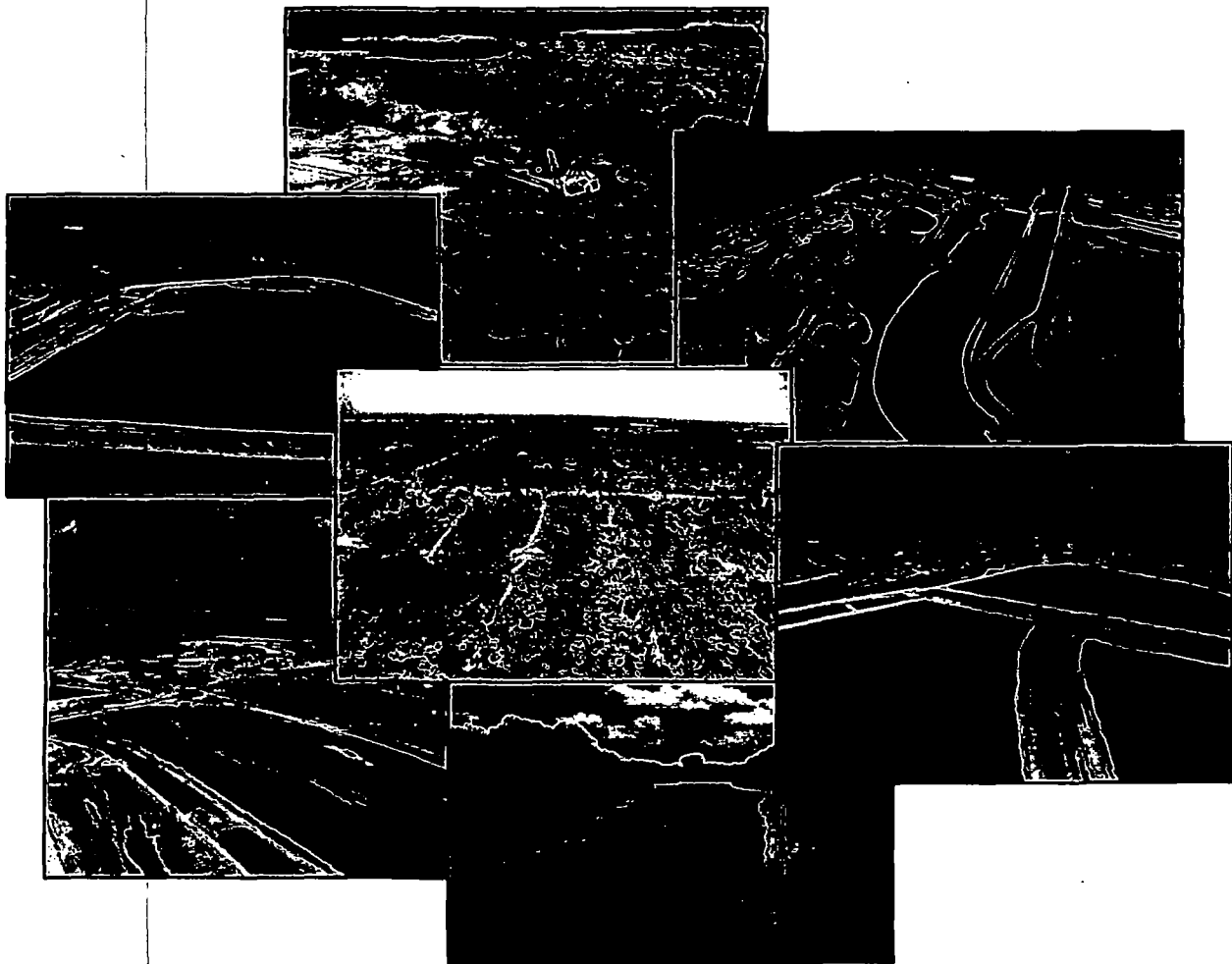


**DRAFT – For Internal Use Only**

SITE: Florida Phosphate  
BREAK: 2.4  
OTHER: v.1

**REVISED**  
**COMMUNICATION STRATEGY**  
**for the**  
**Central Florida Pilot Radiation Assessment**



**JUNE 1, 2004**



10518451

**South Site Management Branch**  
**Waste Management Division**  
**US Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4**

**DRAFT – FOR INTERNAL USE ONLY**

**COMMUNICATION STRATEGY  
for the  
CENTRAL FLORIDA PILOT RADIATION ASSESSMENT  
Phase I—Public Notification**

**June 2004**



**South Site Management Branch  
Waste Management Division  
US Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**  
**Communication Plan for Central Florida Pilot Radiation Assessment**  
**Phase I – Public Notification**

Over the last 3 years, Region 4 has been evaluating the potential for increased radiation levels across the large areas of central Florida where phosphate mining once occurred. Information from previous radiation testing and investigations of similar sites in the area suggests that radiation levels could be higher than the average background level for central Florida. As a result, the Agency has chosen, as an initial step, to do a pilot radiation assessment of approximately 70,000 acres, most of which is in Polk County, Florida, near Lakeland, with the remainder in Hillsborough County. The assessment will cover both unmined land and formerly mined areas that have been redeveloped as residential communities. The EPA will measure radiation levels on the ground using a helicopter with special remote sensing equipment that will fly in a grid pattern at approximately 150 feet over the area. Assessment results will help to determine areas for further investigation and the potential for chronic health effects from long-term exposures, if radiation levels are elevated.

**Communication Objectives**

- Inform key groups about the purpose, timing, and approach for the pilot radiation assessment.
- Provide public access to information on the pilot assessment and related topics.
- Respond to questions about potential radiation exposure risks from past phosphate mining activities.

**Elements of Communication Strategy**

- Key Groups
  - Federal and State Elected Officials
  - Local Elected Officials (counties and cities in and adjacent to assessment areas)
  - Emergency Response Agencies and Airports
  - Industry Groups (Florida Phosphate Council and FIPR)
  - Interested Environmental Groups
- Communication Methods
  - Information Vehicles
    - Press Release; Q&A Sheet, Pilot Radiation Assessment Fact Sheet
    - Electronic Information Repository/ Web Page
    - Press Availability Session
  - Notification of Key Groups
    - FDEP/DOH Briefings
    - Simultaneous Notification (via email/fax)
      - Federal and State Elected Officials
      - Local Elected Officials, Emergency Response Agencies, Airports
      - Industry and Environmental Organizations
    - News Media Notification (simultaneous email/fax); responses to inquiries, interviews on request
  - General Public Availability
    - Designated EPA Spokesperson and Points of Contact for Pilot Radiation Assessment
    - Responses to questions and public access to information
- Communication Content
  - Who/What/Where/When/Why of Assessment (in non-technical language); EPA Contacts
  - Electronic links to EPA and other resources on radiation and phosphate mining

**Implementation of Communication Strategy**

- Allocation of EPA/Contractor Personnel and Logistical Support (before, during, and after assessment)
- Schedule: Web Site Launch; Public Notification Day
- Internal Communication Responsibilities (project organizational chart)

**Follow-Up and Next Steps**

- Presentation of Assessment Results
- Development/Implementation of Comprehensive Community Involvement Plan (as appropriate)

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Appendix A	Key Contacts List
Appendix B	Q&A Fact Sheet EPA Fact Sheet Press Release
Appendix C	Draft Office of External Affairs Communication Plan
Appendix D	February 2003 Draft Strategy for Community Involvement Related to Florida Phosphate Sites: Phase I--Community Awareness Before and During Pilot Radiation Assessment; Phase II--Community Involvement for Presentation of Assessment Results and Development/Implementation of Community Involvement Plan

## 1.0 Introduction and Purpose

The Waste Management Division of EPA Region 4 plans to conduct a pilot radiation assessment in central Florida to identify and map areas with radiation levels that exceed background levels for non-mined areas of central Florida. Radiation levels that are higher than background could result in long-term exposures and increased potential for chronic health effects.

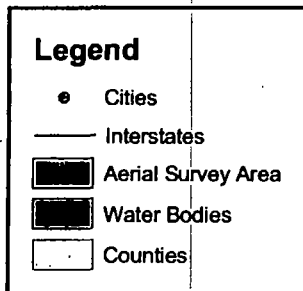
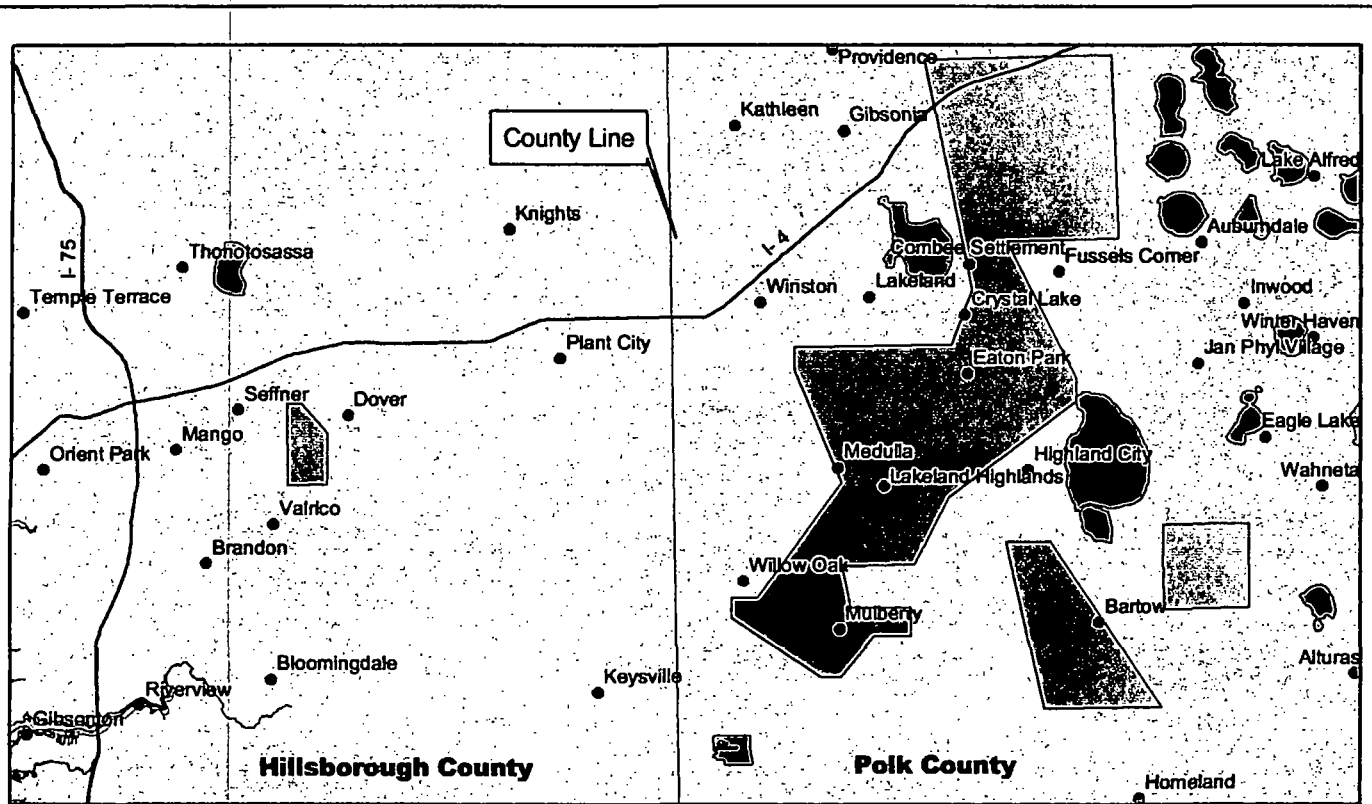
The EPA's knowledge of past phosphate mining practices, review of previous radiation testing, and recent studies of similar mining sites in central Florida suggest that increased levels of radiation may be present in formerly mined areas. Residential communities have been developed over some of these areas. **Therefore, the EPA is undertaking the pilot assessment as the first step in evaluating areas for further investigation and the potential for chronic health effects from long-term exposures, if the radiation levels are elevated.**

The pilot radiation assessment will cover three land areas in Polk County, near Lakeland, comprising approximately 68,000 acres, and a 1,728-acre area in Hillsborough County. The assessment areas include lands that were formerly mined for phosphate, some of which have been redeveloped. An estimated 100,000 persons are living in assessment areas. *[contacted Mary Spivey to clarify the number of people living on formerly mined lands]* The following page presents a map of the areas included in the pilot radiation assessment.

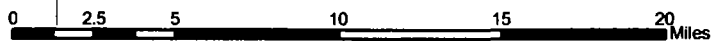
The assessment will be conducted by flying a helicopter, equipped with remote gamma radiation sensing technology, over the selected land areas. The helicopter will fly in a grid pattern, 150 feet above the ground, at a speed of approximately 90 miles per hour. The flyovers will occur during daylight hours, 6 days a week, and should take about 2 weeks to complete.

Region 4 has contracted with the Department of Energy Remote Sensing Laboratory, in conjunction with the Argonne National Laboratory of Oak Ridge, Tennessee, to perform the assessment. The flyovers are tentatively scheduled to begin in Fall 2004.

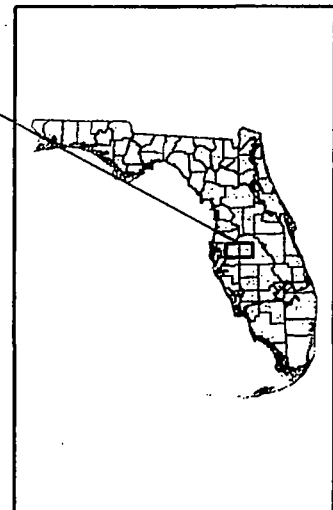
This communication strategy, Phase I—Public Notification, recommends activities developed by a team of EPA staff and contractors to inform elected and local officials, phosphate industry groups, news organizations, and interested community and environmental groups about the pilot radiation assessment. This strategy grew out of a February 2003 meeting about community involvement for the phosphate sites and follow-on meetings in 2004 to discuss public notification regarding the pilot radiation assessment. Region 4 has also consulted with members of the EPA Office of Radiation Communication in Washington, D. C.



## FL Phosphate Pilot Radiation Study



All Data Sources were received from the Florida Bureau of Mine Reclamation



The Phase I strategy focuses on notifying the news media and key groups within the affected communities 2 weeks before the flyovers begin. Notification of all parties will be made simultaneously.

Phase II—Presentation of Assessment Results and Development/Implementation of a Comprehensive Community Involvement Plan will include more traditional community involvement activities, such as community interviews and the development/implementation of a formal community involvement plan.

## 2.0 Scope and Objectives of Communication Strategy

The scope of the Phase I communication strategy focuses on providing information to key groups before and during the pilot radiation assessment. The radiation assessment is a pre-remedial, site assessment tool. In conjunction with the assessment, the EPA seeks to accomplish the following communication objectives:

- Inform key groups about the purpose, timing, and approach for the pilot radiation assessment.
- Provide public access to information on the pilot assessment and related topics.
- Respond to questions about potential radiation exposure risks due to past phosphate mining activities in central Florida.

A well-planned and carefully timed notification effort will be implemented to simultaneously contact key groups and the news media in or near assessment areas. On April 15, 2004, Region 4 representatives met with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and the Florida Department of Health (DOH) to brief them on plans for the radiation assessment and seek input on the notification approach. It is the intent of this communication strategy that all other key groups (listed in Section 3.0) will be informed of the assessment on the same day, called Public Notification Day. The primary vehicles for notification will be fax and email. If either of these formats is unavailable to a particular group or individual, notification will be done by telephone or a face-to-face visit.

Region 4 will also launch a web site on Public Notification Day to provide public access to information on the radiation assessment and related background topics. All written and electronic communications will provide the web site address and EPA contact information. Region 4 will designate spokespersons for technical project information and for news media and public affairs contacts. The EPA spokespersons will be available for meetings/briefings and media interviews upon request.

Residential areas developed on formerly mined lands within the assessment area may include neighborhoods that are considered economically disadvantaged and/or have a predominately non-white population. The EPA will evaluate the potential for environmental justice issues within the assessment areas and will be sensitive to these issues in all communications. The following map shows areas where these issues may occur. *[contacted Mary Spivey for an EJ map, if available]*

Figure 2—Map of Assessment Areas with EJ concerns

### **3.0 Elements of Communication Strategy**

The flow chart on the following page provides an overview of the communication strategy for the pilot radiation assessment. This subsection describes the elements of the strategy and identifies the key groups to whom information will be provided, methods for providing information and responding to inquiries, and the information to be communicated.

**COMMUNICATION STRATEGY  
FOR CENTRAL FLORIDA PILOT RADIATION ASSESSMENT  
Phase I – Public Notification**

Over the last 3 years, Region 4 has been evaluating the potential for increased radiation levels across the large areas of central Florida where phosphate mining once occurred. Previous testing in these areas suggests that radiation levels could be higher than the average background level for central Florida. As a result, the Agency has chosen, as an initial step, to do a pilot radiation assessment of nearly 70,000 acres that include formerly mined areas redeveloped as residential communities. Assessment results will help to determine areas for further investigation and the potential for chronic health effects from long-term exposures if radiation levels are elevated.

**COMMUNICATION OBJECTIVES**

- Inform key groups about the purpose, timing, and approach for the radiation assessment
- Provide public access to information on the pilot assessment and related topics
- Respond to questions about potential radiation exposure risks from past phosphate mining

**ELEMENTS OF COMMUNICATION STRATEGY**

**KEY GROUPS**

- Federal and State Elected Officials
- Local Elected Officials
- Emergency Response Agencies and Airports
- Industry Groups
- Interested Environmental Groups

**COMMUNICATION ACTIVITIES**

Information Vehicles

- EPA Fact Sheet on Pilot Assessment
- Press Release and Q&A
- Electronic Information Repository/Web Site
- Press Availability Session

Notification of Key Groups

- State Agencies' Briefings
- Notification via e-mail and fax
  - Federal and State Elected Officials
  - Local Elected Officials, Emergency Responders, and Airports
  - Industry and Environmental Organizations
- News Media Notification
  - Simultaneous with above groups
  - EPA spokespersons available for interviews

General Public Availability

- Web page
- Designated EPA Spokesperson
- Responses to questions and public access to information

**WRITTEN/ ELECTRONIC INFORMATION CONTENT**

Fact Sheet, Press Release, and Q&A

- Who, What, Why, When, Where, How of Radiation Assessment
- Map of Assessment Areas
- EPA Contacts and Information Sources

Web Site/ Electronic Repository

- Radiation Assessment Information/ Maps
- Background and Project Documents
- Links, Contacts, and E-mail/ Feedback

**IMPLEMENTATION OF COMMUNICATION STRATEGY**

- Allocation of EPA/Contractor Resources for Notification; Follow-Up
- Schedule: Web Site Launch, Public Notification Day; ongoing after
- Spokespersons; Internal Communication Responsibilities (org chart)

**FOLLOW-UP AND NEXT STEPS**

- Presentation of Assessment Results
- Development/Implementation of Comprehensive Community Involvement Plan (as appropriate)

### **3.1 Key Groups**

#### **Public Officials**

- Florida DEP.
- Florida DOH.
- Federal and State elected officials who represent communities in the assessment area.
- County officials: elected commissioners, county administrators, school board members, and emergency response agency directors for Polk and Hillsborough (primary contact); Manatee, Hardee, and DeSoto counties (secondary/courtesy contact).
- Elected officials and police/fire chiefs for cities and towns in the assessment area.
- Airports in the assessment area.

#### **News Media**

- Newspapers covering the assessment area and neighboring counties.
- Broadcast media, including local television affiliates for national networks, public television and local radio, especially news/talk and public radio stations.

#### **Organizations**

- Florida Institute of Phosphate Research (independent State research agency).
- Florida Phosphate Council.
- Interested Environmental Groups and Community Organizations.

Appendix A provides contact information for the public officials, media outlets, and organizations listed above.

### **3.2 Communication Methods**

The EPA will use the following methods to communicate information about the pilot radiation assessment.

#### **Information Vehicles**

**Press Release:** A press release will be prepared and distributed (by email or fax) to news media and other interested parties listed in Appendix A on Public Notification Day, the date of which will be 2 weeks before flyovers begin. Appendix B provides a draft press release. A copy of the Q&A sheet and a map of the assessment areas will be provided to the media upon request.

**Q&A Sheet:** An information sheet, up to two pages in length (one page front and back), will be prepared using a question and answer (Q&A) format. The front of the Q&A sheet will have brief questions and answers to explain the purpose of the assessment, basic facts about radiation related to phosphate mining, and what to expect during the flyovers; the back will provide a map of the assessment areas and EPA sources to contact for more information, including the address for the project web site described below. The Q&A sheet will be distributed to news media on Public Notification Day as their initial notification of the flyovers and the pilot radiation assessment. The EPA may also purchase advertising space in key local newspapers to print the Q&A sheet on Public Notification Day. Appendix B provides the draft Q&A sheet.

**Region 4 Fact Sheet on Pilot Radiation Assessment:** A fact sheet on the pilot radiation assessment will be prepared using the standard EPA format. The fact sheet will explain the purpose and approach for the assessment in more detail than the Q&A sheet, and will provide relevant background information to promote understanding of the rationale for the assessment. The fact sheet will be distributed on Public Notification Day via email or fax to congressional and state elected officials, local officials, and other designated groups. Appendix B provides the draft EPA fact sheet.

**Web Site/Electronic Information Repository:** An EPA web page will be developed and launched on Public Notification Day to provide access to information on the assessment, background and other relevant information, and a means to contact EPA with questions. The web site will also establish an electronic information repository, which will include the EPA fact sheet, Q&A sheet, photos and video of the assessment helicopter, follow-up answers to questions about the project, and links to general information on phosphate mining and potential exposures. The web site may also be used to provide access to assessment results. The web site will be up shortly before Public Notification Day.

**Press Availability Session:** Upon request, EPA spokespersons will be available for interviews and photo opportunities of the flyover equipment before or during the flyovers.

### **Contact with Key Groups**

**Notification of State Agencies:** Region 4 project and management representatives briefed Florida DEP and DOH representatives on April 15, 2004, to advise these agencies and seek input on plans for the radiation assessment and communication activities planned in conjunction with the assessment.

**Notification/Briefings with Federal and State Elected Officials:** On Public Notification Day, the EPA Office of Congressional Affairs will contact Federal and State elected officials representing communities in the radiation assessment area to inform them of the project and flyover schedule. Kristi Watkins will handle notification of Federal elected officials and requests for more information; Rita Wayco will serve as the liaison with State elected officials. Legislators will receive the EPA pilot radiation assessment fact sheet, which will include EPA contact information.

**Notification of Local Officials and Industry Organizations:** On Public Notification Day, the pilot assessment fact sheet will be distributed to local officials, emergency response agency directors, and industry organizations identified in Appendix A. EPA contractor support, at the direction of the EPA Remedial Project Manager (RPM) and Community Involvement Coordinator (CIC), will handle notification of local officials and industry organizations through email or by fax, if email is not available. At the EPA's request, EPA contractor personnel will make follow-up phone calls to check whether these officials and groups received notice of the flyovers.

**Notification of News Media:** On Public Notification Day, the EPA Office of External Affairs will email or fax, as appropriate, a press release and the Q&A sheet to news media outlets identified in the Key Contacts list in Appendix A. Carl Terry, Region 4 Office of External Affairs, will be the designated contact for the news media. Upon request, Carl Terry and/or Carol Monell, the EPA spokesperson for technical project information, will be available for media interviews. If interest warrants, the news media will be provided access to see and photograph the helicopter and equipment to be used for the radiation assessment.

**Notification of Key Organizations and Environmental Groups:** EPA contractor personnel will email or fax the assessment fact sheet to key community and environmental groups on Public Notification Day. EPA contractor personnel will make follow-up phone calls to check whether the email or faxed notification was received.

### **General Public Availability**

**EPA Designated Project Spokesperson for the Pilot Radiation Assessment:** The EPA will designate a knowledgeable Agency employee who is skilled in public communication with a variety of groups, such as those identified in the Key Contacts list in Appendix A, to make general public announcements about the status and implementation of the pilot radiation assessment. The designated project spokesperson will also serve as the EPA primary point of contact for the pilot radiation assessment. Carol Monell, Chief, Superfund Remedial and

Technical Services Branch, has been nominated as the EPA's designated project spokesperson for the pilot radiation assessment.

**EPA Points of Contact:** As the EPA designated project spokesperson for the pilot radiation assessment, Carol Monell, Chief, Superfund Remedial and Technical Services Branch, will be the primary EPA point of contact with the public for the pilot radiation assessment. L'Tonya Spencer, the EPA Region 4 Community Involvement Coordinator for the State of Florida, will assist the EPA designated project spokesperson by providing community involvement support. The EPA Office of External Affairs will provide support for media inquiries; Carl Terry will be listed as the media point of contact on the press release sent on Public Notification Day. Kristi Watkins and Rita Wayco, Office of Congressional Affairs, will contact Federal and State elected officials for the radiation assessment area. They will distribute the EPA fact sheet on Public Notification Day and handle legislators' requests for additional information.

### **3.3 Communication Content**

Information about the pilot radiation assessment will be written in a concise, clear style, without technical jargon. The Q&A sheet and press release will contain the same basic content in different formats, and the pilot radiation assessment fact sheet will provide additional details and background information. The three written pieces will be the primary means of explaining the purpose and approach to the pilot radiation assessment. The Q&A sheet, press release, and fact sheet will cover the following items:

- Why the EPA is conducting the survey.
- What areas will be assessed (simple map will be included).
- How and when the flyovers will occur.
- What people will see and hear during the assessment.
- How long the assessment will take.
- What happens when the flyovers are complete.
- How to obtain more information.

## **4.0 Implementation of Strategy**

### **4.1 Required Resources**

Due to the sensitivity and anticipated interest in the pilot radiation assessment, the notification strategy will require thorough planning and sufficient allocation of both EPA and contractor resources. The strategy calls for initially releasing information on Public Notification Day, with availability of EPA spokespersons for interviews or meetings before and during the flyovers. Although a broad-based outreach effort is not planned at this time, it is possible that media and public interest will increase upon notification of the pilot radiation assessment. Key EPA project and contractor personnel should be in Lakeland to provide support and handle requests for information immediately after initial public notification.

Developing and maintaining a web page for the assessment will require skilled resources, and EPA project staff will need to provide and update information and respond, on a timely basis, to email inquiries made through the web site.

### **4.2 Schedule**

The tentative timetable for implementing the activities in the Phase I communication strategy is Fall 2004. Public Notification Day for initial release of information will be based on the final starting date for the radiation assessment. *[an updated calendar will be inserted when final scheduling of the assessment is made]*

**SEPTEMBER 2004**

<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>SATURDAY</b>
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7 EPA briefs FL DEP/DOH about flyover schedule/activities	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21 Public Notification Day <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• OEA notifies federal/state elected officials</li> <li>• Q&amp;A fact sheet emailed or fax to local officials, community/environmental groups</li> <li>• Press release faxed/emailed to media</li> <li>• Electronic Info Repository/Web Site available</li> </ul>	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

**OCTOBER 2004**

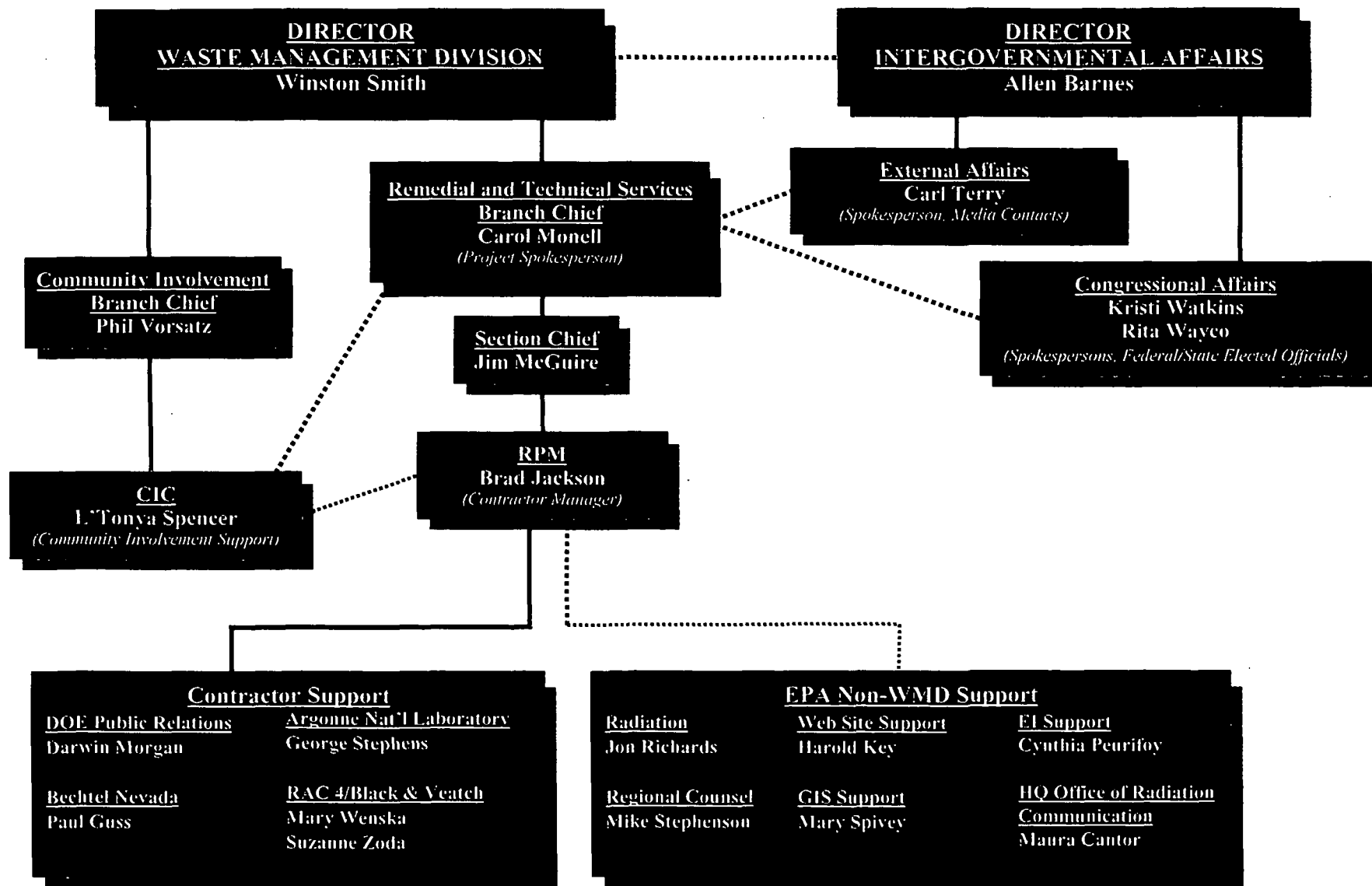
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>SATURDAY</b>
					<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> <b>Flyovers begin</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> <b>Flyovers Complete</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>31</b>						

NOVEMBER 2004						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 Thanksgiving	26	27
28	29	30	31			

### **4.3 Internal Communication Responsibilities**

The following page provides an organizational chart, including EPA and contractor resources for implementing the pilot radiation assessment and communication strategy. Mr. Brad Jackson, RPM for the Central Florida Phosphate Pilot Study, will be the main internal point of contact for the project and will direct EPA contractor support. Black & Veatch will provide support for preparing the communication strategy, Key Contact list, written information, and will assist with notification/follow-up calls for local community officials and organizations. Black & Veatch will coordinate with the EPA's Community Involvement, External Affairs, and Congressional liaison staff in conducting these tasks. The EPA will be responsible for authorizing the release of all information described in this strategy.

## Organizational Chart for Pilot Radiation Assessment



## 5.0 Follow--Up and Next Steps

The scope of this strategy does not include communication activities following completion of the radiation assessment. However, it is likely that the release of information and media coverage about the assessment will generate considerable public interest. Contacts can be expected from residents in the assessment area who are concerned about the implications of the radiation assessment; activist groups concerned about the environmental effects of phosphate mining; phosphate industry representatives; community officials; and other groups. EPA staff members need to be prepared to answer questions about where to get the assessment results, how to interpret the results, what follow-up actions the EPA will take, and possible concerns that property owners and other community members may have if radiation is detected above background, particularly in residential areas.

The following is a list of follow-on community involvement activities, some or all of which may be needed when the pilot radiation assessment is complete.

### Presentation of Assessments Results

- Fact Sheets
- Public Availability Sessions
- Press Releases
- Briefings with Community Officials
- Web Site Updates/Enhancement

### Development/Implementation of Comprehensive Community Involvement Plan

- Community Interviews
- Support for Communities that want to form Community Advisory Groups or Task Forces
- Comprehensive Community Involvement Plan

The activities listed above were identified during the February 2003 community involvement strategy session held at the Region 4 office in Atlanta and follow-on meetings in late winter and spring 2004. At this point, the community involvement strategy for the phosphate sites has two phases: Phase I—Community Notification and Outreach (the initial communication strategy laid out in this document) and Phase II—Community Involvement (the follow-on activities to deliver assessment results and involve communities more fully in future site actions dictated by assessment results).

## **Appendix A**

### **Contact List**

## Appendix A

### Contact List

#### A. Federal Elected Officials

**The Honorable Bill Nelson**

U. S. Senate

Washington Office

716 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

District Office

Sam Gibbons Federal Court House  
801 N. Florida Avenue – 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Tampa, FL 33602

Phone: 202-224-5274

Fax: 202-228-2183

Phone: 813-225-7040

Fax: 813-225-7050

email: billnelson.senate.gov

**The Honorable Bob Graham**

U. S. Senate

Washington Office

524 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

District Office

625 East Twiggs Street – Suite 500  
Tampa, FL 33602

Phone: 202-224-3041

Fax: 202-224-2237

Phone: 813-228-2476

Fax: 813-228-2479

email: bob\_graham@graham.senate.gov

**The Honorable Adam H. Putnam**

U.S. House of Representatives

Washington Office

506 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Aide: Ms. Karen Williams

District Office

650 East Davidson

Bartow, FL 33830

District Director: Matt Joyner

Phone: 202-225-1252

Fax: 202-226-0585

Phone: 863-534-3530

Phone: 866-534-3530

Fax: 863-534-3559

email: www.adamputnam.house.gov

**The Honorable Ginny Brown-Waite**

U.S. House of Representatives

Washington Office

1516 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

District Office

38008 Meridian Avenue

Dade City, FL 33525

Phone: 202-225-1002

Fax: 202-226-6559

Phone: 352-567-6707

Phone: 1-866-GWAITES (w/in Dist. 5)

Fax: 352-567-6359

email: www.house.gov/brown-waite

**The Honorable Dave Weldon**  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington Office  
2347 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515  
District Office  
2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way, Building C  
Melbourne, FL 32940

Phone: 202-225-3671  
Fax: 202-225-3516

Phone: 321-632-1776  
Phone: 800-939-3515  
Fax: 321-639-8595  
www.house.gov/weldon

## **B. State Elected Officials**

**Governor Jeb Bush**  
PL-05 The Capitol  
400 South Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Phone: 850-488-4441  
Fax: 850-487-0801  
email: jeb.bush@myflorida.com

**Senator Tom Lee**  
Florida Senate District 10  
Capitol Office  
Senate Office Building - Room 400  
404 South Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100  
District Office  
P. O. Box 2743  
Brandon, FL 33509  
915 Oakfield Drive – Suite E  
Brandon, FL 33511

Phone: 850-487-5072  
Fax: 850-487-5485

Phone: 813-744-8683  
Fax: 813-744-8556  
email: lee.tom.web@flsenate.gov

**Senator Paula Dockery**  
Florida Senate District 15  
Capitol Office  
Senate Office Building - Room 326  
404 South Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100  
District Office  
P. O. Box 2395  
Lakeland, FL 33806-2395

Phone: 850-487-5040  
Fax: 850-487-5385  
email: dockery.paula.web@flsenate.gov

Phone: 863-413-2900  
Phone: 1-866-248-6487 (state-wide)  
Fax: 863-413-2902

**Senator J. D. Alexander**  
Florida Senate District 17  
Capitol Office  
404 South Monroe Street – Room 312  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100  
District Office  
122 East Tillman Avenue – Suite 1  
Lake Wales, FL 33853

Phone: 850-487-5044  
Fax: 888-263-3869  
  
Phone: 863-679-4411  
Phone: 1-800-444-9747 (state-wide)  
Fax: 863-679-4413  
email: alexander.jd.web@flsenate.gov

**Representative Dennis A. Ross**

Florida House District 63

Capitol Office

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Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300

District Office

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Phone: 850-488-9890

Fax: None

Phone: 863-701-1400

Fax: 863-701-1402

email: ross.dennis@myfloridahouse.com

**Representative John K. Stargel**

Florida House District 64

Capitol Office

210 House Office Building

402 South Monroe Street

Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300

District Office

P. O. Box 2009

Lakeland, FL 33806-2009

933 South Florida Avenue

Lakeland, FL 33806

Phone: 850-488-2270

Fax: 850-488-9933

Phone: 863-413-2877

Fax: 863-413-2879

email: stargel.john@myfloridahouse.com

**Representative Marsha L. "Marty" Bowen**

Florida House District 65

Capitol Office

417 House Office Building

402 South Monroe Street

Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300

District Office

P. O. Box 7229

Winter Haven, FL 33883

353 Avenue "C" Southwest

Winter Haven, FL 33880

Phone: 850-488-2721

Fax: 850-413-0419

Phone: 863-298-4422

Fax: 863-298-4424

email: bowen.marty@myfloridahouse.com

**Representative Baxter G. Troutman**

Florida House District 66

Capitol Office

1102 The Capitol

402 South Monroe Street

Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300

District Office

P. O. Box 7667

Winter Haven, FL 33883-7667

44 4<sup>th</sup> Street, SW

Winter Haven, FL 33880

Phone: 850-488-9465

Fax: 850-487-1826

Phone: 863-298-5220

Fax: 863-298-5222

email: troutman.baxter@myfloridahouse.com

**Representative Frank Attkisson**

Florida House District 79

Capitol Office

209 House Office Building

402 South Monroe Street

Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300

District Office

323 Pleasant Street

Kissimmee, FL 34741-5763

Phone: 850-488-8992

Fax: 850-414-6875

Phone: 407-943-3077

Fax: 407-943-3078

email: attkisson.frank@myfloridahouse.com

**C. Polk County Local Elected Officials**

Polk County Commissioners

Don Gifford - District 1

Phone: 863-534-6450

email: dongifford@polk-county.net

Randy Wilkinson - District 2

Phone: 863-534-6434

email: randywilkinson@polk-county.net

Jack Myers - District 3

Phone: 863-534-6050

email: jackmyers@polk-county.net

Paul Senft - District 4

Phone: 863-534-6422

email: paulsenft@polk-county.net

Neil Combee - District 5

Phone: 863-534-6049

email: neilcombee@polk-county.net

Mailing Address

Drawer BC01

P. O. Box 9005

Bartow, FL 33831

Phone: 863-534-6000

Fax: 863-534-7655

Michael Herr

Polk County Manager

Drawer CA01

P. O. Box 9005

Bartow, FL 33831

Phone: 863-534-6444

Fax: 863-534-7069

email: michaelherr@polk-county.net

Sheriff Lawrence W. Crow, Jr.

Polk County Sheriff's Office

455 North Broadway Avenue

Bartow, FL 33830-3998

Phone: 863-533-0344

Phone: 800-226-0344

Fax: 863-534-6390

email: lcrow@polksheriff.org

**Other Polk County Officials / Interested Parties**

Robert "Bob" Bedell, Director

Polk County Environmental Services

4177 Ben Durrance Road

Bartow, FL 33831

Phone: 863-534-7377

Fax: 863-519-7670

email: bedellrobert@polk-county.net

Raymond Chatlos, Director  
Polk County Emergency Medical Services  
P. O. Box 1458  
Bartow, FL 33831

Phone: 863-519-7400  
Fax: 863-534-0010  
email: raymondchatlos@polk-county.net

David Cash, Director  
Polk County Emergency Management

Phone: 863-534-5993  
Phone: 863-519-7300  
Fax: 863-534-6060  
email: dcash@polk-county.net

Doug Lewis, Fire Chief  
Polk County Fire Services

Phone: 863-519-7350  
Fax: 863-534-0379  
email: douglaslewis@polk-county.net

Mailing Address

Polk County  
250 Bartow Air Base  
Bartow, FL 33880

Phone: 863-534-0370  
Fax: 863-534-0010

Bartow Airport Authority  
P.O. Box 650  
Bartow, FL 33831

Phone: 863-533-1195  
Fax: 863-533-5968

Representatives

Cynthia L. Barrow – Executive Director  
Terry R White – Assistant Director

email: cindy@bartow-airport.com  
email: terry@bartow-airport.com

**Towns/Cities/Neighboring Areas Under Polk County Jurisdiction**

**Auburndale, FL**

City of Auburndale  
City Hall  
P. O. Box 186  
Auburndale, FL 33823  
Ronnie Spears - Mayor

Phone: 863-965-5530  
Fax: 863-965-5583  
email: citymanagersoffice@auburndalefl.com

**City Commissioners**

Randy Spears  
Bill Sterling  
Marvin Wiley  
Allen Johnson

Bobby Green - City Manager  
Sam Efurd – Fire Chief  
Dean Longo – Chief of Police

email: citymanagersoffice@auburndalefl.com  
Phone: 863-965-5530 / 5529  
Phone: 863-965-5530 / 5555

**Fussels Corner / Highland City / Willow Oak**

For Fire Department - all mail, faxes, and email to:

Doug Lewis, Fire Chief  
Polk County Fire Services  
250 Bartow Air Base  
Bartow, FL 33880

Phone: 863-519-7350  
Fax: 863-534-0379  
email: douglaslewis@polk-county.net

**Lakeland, FL**

**Lakeland City Commissioners**

Ralph L. "Buddy" Fletcher - Mayor  
A. Dean Boring – District At Large  
Gow B. Fields – Northwest District  
Glenn E. Higgins – Northeast District  
Seth McKeel - Southeast District  
James Verplanck – Southwest District  
R. Howard Wiggs – District At Large

email: Ralph.fletcher@lakelandgov.net  
email: dean.boring@lakelandgov.net  
email: gow.fields@lakelandgov.net  
email: glenn.higgins@lakelandgov.net  
email: seth.mckeel@lakelandgov.net  
email: james.verplanck@lakelandgov.net  
email: howard.wiggs@lakelandgov.net

**Office of the City Manager**

Douglas B. Thomas – City Manager  
Tony Delgado – Assistant City Manager

Phone: 863-834-6006

Phone: 863-834-6006

**Mailing Address**

City Hall  
228 South Massachusetts Avenue  
Lakeland, Florida 33801

Phone: 863-834-6000

Polk County Sheriff's Department  
Captain Andy Ray  
Southwest District Substation  
4120 Highway 98 South  
Lakeland, FL 33813

Phone: 863-499-2400

Phone: 863-499-2404

Fax: 863-499-2408

www.polksheriff.org

Mike Mohler  
Lakeland City Fire Chief  
730 E. Main Street  
Lakeland, FL 33801-5071

Phone: 863-834-8200 / 8201

Fax: 863-834-8295 / 8222

email: mike.mohler@lakelandgov.net

Roger Boatner  
Lakeland City Police Chief  
219 N. Massachusetts Avenue  
Lakeland, Florida 33801

Phone: 863-834-6907

Fax: 863-834-6931

email: roger.boatner@lakelandgov.net

Lakeland Linder Regional Airport  
John DuBose – Interim Airport Director  
Teresa Cornett – Property Manager  
Anthony Saavedra – Air Traffic Manager

email: john.dubose@lakelandgov.net  
email: teresa.cornett@lakelandgov.net  
email: Anthony.saavedra@lakelandgov.net

**Mailing Address**

Lakeland Linder Regional Airport  
Airport Administration  
3900 Don Emerson Drive – Suite 210  
Lakeland, FL 33811

Phone: 863-648-3298

Fax: 863-648-3274

**Winter Haven, FL**

**Winter Haven Commissioners**

Charles Cone – Seat 1

Nat Birdsong – Seat 2

Jeff Potter – Seat 3

Yvonne Brooks – Seat 4

Mike Easterling - Mayor

David Greene - City Manager

**Mailing Address**

Winter Haven City Hall

P. O. Box 2277

Winter Haven, FL 33883

email: cccone@mywinterhaven.com  
email: nbirdsong@mywinterhaven.com  
email: jpottter@mywinterhaven.com  
email: ybrooks@mywinterhaven.com  
email: measterling@mywinterhaven.com  
email: d.green@mywinterhaven.com

Phone: 863-291-5600

Fax: 863-291-5623

Buddy Waters

Interim Police Chief

Winter Haven Police Services Department

125 North Lake Silver Drive, N.W.

Winter Haven, FL 33881

Phone: 863-291-5858  
Fax: 863-297-3001  
email: bwaters@mywinterhaven.com

Tony Jackson

Winter Haven Fire Services Department

551 Third Street, N.W.

Winter Haven, FL 33881

Phone: 863-291-5697  
Fax: 863-295-5998  
Email: tjackson@mywinterhaven.com

Richard Osborne – Airport Director

Winter Haven Municipal Airport

(Gilbert Field)

3000 21<sup>st</sup> Street, NW

Winter Haven, FL 33883

Phone: 863-298-4551  
Fax: 863-298-4553  
email: rosborne@mywinterhaven.com

Dan Marcil, Manager

Winter Haven Flight Academy

3000 21<sup>st</sup> Street, N.W.

Winter Haven, FL 33881

Phone: 877-621-3544 / 863-293-2501  
Fax: 863-293-2755  
email: danmarcil@winterhavenflightacademy.com

Jon Brown, Owner

Jack Brown's Seaplane Base

2704 Highway 92 West

Winter Haven, FL 33881

Phone: 863-956-2243 (day)  
Phone: 863-967-5891 (evening)  
Fax: 863-956-3242  
email: seaplane@gate.net

Margaret Shipley, President

Wings and Wheels Florida

3088 21<sup>st</sup> Street, N.W.

Winter Haven, FL 33881-1274

Phone: 863-401-9936  
Fax: None  
email: wingsandwheelsfl@msn.com

## **D. DeSoto County Local Elected Officials**

### DeSoto County Commissioners

Thomas "Felton" Garner – District 1

Jerry G. Hill – District 2

William "Bill" Altman – District 3

Terry L. Welles – District 4

Ronald P. Neads – District 5

### Mailing Address

DeSoto County

201 East Oak Street – Suite 201

Arcadia, FL 34266

email: f.garner@co.desoto.fl.us

email: j.hill@co.desoto.fl.us

email: bill.altman@co.desoto.fl.us

email: t.welles@co.desoto.fl.us

email: r.neads@co.desoto.fl.us

Phone: 863-993-4800

Fax: 863-993-4809

John J. "Johnny" Fugate

DeSoto County Sheriff

208 E. Cypress Street

Arcadia, FL 34266

Phone: 863-993-4700

Fax: 863-993-4712

email: desotosheriff@earthlink.net

## **Other DeSoto County Officials / Interested Parties**

James V. Chrisholm

DeSoto County Administrator

201 East Oak Street – Suite 201

Arcadia, FL 34268

Phone: 863-993-4800

Fax: 863-993-4809

email: j.chrisholm@co.desoto.fl.us

Billy Hines - Director

DeSoto County Environmental Services

3268 S.W. Dishong Avenue

Arcadia, FL 34266

Phone: 863-993-4826

Fax: 863-993-4830 (confirm receipt)

email: dces@desoto.net

Catherine Furr, Director

Desoto County Emergency Management

115 East Oak Street – Room B-1

Arcadia, FL 34266

Phone: 863-993-4831

Fax: 863-993-4840

email: eoc@co.desoto.fl.us

## **E. Hardee County Local Elected Officials**

### Hardee County Commissioners

William "Bill" R. Lambert, Jr. – District I

Clifton N. "Nick" Timmerman – District II

Gordon R. Norris – District III

Bobby Ray Smith – District IV

Walter B. Olliff, Jr. – District V

Lexton H. Albritton, Jr. – County Manager

### Mailing Address

Hardee County Board of County Commissioners

412 West Orange Street – Room 103

Wauchula, FL 33873

Phone: 863-773-9430 (office)

Phone: 863-773-6952 / 9430

Fax: 863-773-0958

email: bcc@hardeecounty.net

J. Loran Cogburn  
Hardee County Sheriff  
900 E. Summit Street  
Wauchula, FL 33873

Phone: 863-773-0304  
Fax: 863-773-4593  
Fax: 863-773-3865  
email: lcogburn@hardeeso.com

**Other Hardee County Officials / Interested Parties**

William Muhlfeld  
Hardee County Emergency Management / Public Safety Director  
404 W. Orange Street  
Wauchula, FL 33873

Phone: 863-773-6373  
Fax: 863-773-0107  
email: bill.muhlfeld@hardeecounty.net

**F. Hillsborough County Local Elected Officials**

**Hillsborough County Commissioners**

(Must use individual phone/fax/email for all)

Kathy Castor – District 1

Phone: 813-272-5470  
Fax: 813-272-7046  
email: castorK@hillsboroughcounty.org

Ken Hagan, Chaplain – District 2

Phone: 813-272-5452  
Fax: 813-272-7047  
email: haganK@hillsboroughcounty.org

Thomas Scott, Chairman – District 3

Phone: 813-272-5720  
Fax: 813-272-7048  
email: scottTh@hillsboroughcounty.org

Rhonda Storms – District 4

Phone: 813-272-5740  
Fax: 813-272-7049  
email: stormsr@hillsboroughcounty.org

Jim Norman, Vice Chairman – District 5 (At Large)

Phone: 813-272-5725  
Fax: 813-272-7052  
email: normanJ@hillsboroughcounty.org

Jan Platt – District 6 (At Large)

Phone: 813-272-5730  
Fax: 813-272-7053  
email: plattJ@hillsboroughcounty.org

Pat Frank – District 7 (At Large)

Phone: 813-272-5735  
Fax: 813-272-7054  
email: frankp@hillsboroughcounty.org

**Mailing Address**

Hillsborough County Board of County Commissioners  
P. O. Box 1110  
Tampa, FL 33601

Phone: 813-272-5660

Cal Henderson, Sheriff  
Hillsborough County Sheriff's Department  
2008 E. 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Tampa, FL 33605

Phone: 813-247-8000  
Fax: 813-247-0980  
email: hscso@hcsso.tampa.fl.us

### **Other Hillsborough County Officials / Interested Parties**

Patricia G. Bean  
Hillsborough County Administrator  
County Center – 26<sup>th</sup> Floor  
601 E. Kennedy Boulevard  
Tampa, FL 33602

Phone: 813-272-5750  
Fax: 813-272-5248  
email: beanp@hillsboroughcounty.org

Dr. Rick Garrity, Executive Director  
Hillsborough County Environmental Protection Commission  
1900 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Tampa, FL 33605

Phone: 813-272-5960  
Fax: 813-272-5157  
email: garrity@epc.org

Larry Gispert, Director  
Emergency Management  
2711 E. Hanna Avenue  
Tampa, FL 33610

Phone: 813-276-2364  
Phone: 813-272-6900 (gen. off.)  
Fax: 813-272-6878 (gen. off.)  
email: gispertl@hillsboroughcounty.org

Bill Nesmith  
Director of Hillsborough County Fire Rescue  
2709 E. Hanna Avenue  
Tampa, FL 33610

Phone: 813-272-6600  
Fax: 813-272-6692  
email: nesmithw@hillsboroughcounty.org

Scott Pollock, Manager  
Peter O'Knight Tampa Flying Service  
825 Severn Avenue  
Tampa, FL 33606-4015

Phone: 813-251-1752  
Fax: 813-251-0731

### **Towns/Cities/Neighboring Areas Under Hillsborough County Jurisdiction**

#### **Plant City, FL**

William D. Dodson - Mayor  
Mary Yvette Thomas – Vice Mayor

email: fbcdodson@aol.com  
email: mythomas00@aol.com

#### **City Commissioners**

John L. Dicks, Esquire  
Rich Glorioso  
Michael S. Sparkman  
David R Sollenberger – City Manager  
George Shiley – Fire Chief

email: john@johndicks.com  
email: richjudyg@ATT.net  
email: sparkysoil@aol.com  
email: dsollenberger@plantcitygov.com  
Phone: 813-757-9131  
Fax: 813-757-9133

Bill McDaniel – Police Department

email: gshiley@plantcitygov.com  
Phone: 813-757-9200  
Fax: 813-757-9121

email: bmcDaniel@plantcitygov.com

#### **Mailing Address**

City of Plant City  
P.O. Box C  
Plant City, FL 33564

Phone: 813-659-4200  
Fax: 813-659-4232

David Mitchell, Owner/President  
Plant City Municipal Airport  
4007 Airport Road  
Plant City, FL 33567

Phone: 813-752-4710  
Fax: 813-757-6250  
email: pcairport.net (webb)

## **G. Manatee County Local Elected Officials**

### **Manatee County Commissioners**

Amy E. Stein – District 1  
Gwendolyn Y. Brown – District 2  
Jane W. von Hahmann – District 3  
Ron Getman – District 4  
Jonathan R. Bruce – District 5  
Patricia M. Glass – District 6  
Joe McClash – District 7

email: amy.stein@co.manatee.fl.us  
email: gwen.brown@co.manatee.fl.us  
email: jane.vonhahmann@co.manatee.fl.us  
email: ron.getman@co.manatee.fl.us  
email: jonathan.bruce@co.manatee.fl.us  
email: pat.glass@co.manatee.fl.us  
email: joe.mcclash@co.manatee.fl.us

### **Mailing Address**

P. O. Box 1000  
Bradenton, FL 34206-1000

Phone: 941-748-4501  
Fax: 941-745-3790

Charles B. Wells  
Manatee County Sheriff  
515 11<sup>th</sup> Street W.  
Bradenton, FL 34205

Phone: 941-747-3011  
Fax: 941-749-5401  
email: Charlie.wells@co.manatee.fl.us

## **Other Manatee County Officials / Interested Parties**

Ernie Padgett  
Manatee County Administrator

Phone: 941-745-3717 (ext.3717)  
Fax: 941-745-3790

email: ernie.padgett@co.manatee.fl.us

Karen Collins-Fleming  
Manatee County Environmental Mgmt.

Phone: 941-742-5980 (ext.5980)  
Fax: 941-742-5996

email: karen.collins@co.manatee.fl.us

Mark Edenfield, Division Chief  
Manatee County Emergency Med. Svcs.  
Lauretta Feagans, Emergency Management Chief  
Manatee County Emergency Mgmt.

Phone: 941-748-4501  
email: mark.edenfield@co.manatee.fl.us

Phone: 941-749-3022

Phone: 941-748-4501 (storm emerg., etc)

Fax: 941-741-3539

email: laurie.feagans@co.manatee.fl.us

email: emergency.management@co.manatee.fl.us

Phone: 941-748-4501 (ext.3559)

Fax: 941-741-3539

email: aren.windon@co.manatee.fl.us

Karen Windon, Director of Public Safety  
Manatee County Public Safety Department

### **Mailing Address**

P. O. Box 1000  
Bradenton, FL 34206-1000

Phone: 941-748-4501

## H. News Media Contacts

### Newspapers

The Courier  
Tony Marrero, Editor  
101 North Wheeler Street  
Plant City, FL 33563

Phone: 813-752-3113  
Fax: 813-754-3725  
email: tmarrero@mediageneral.com

The Tampa Tribune  
Daniel Ruth – Columnist  
Jan Hollingsworth - Reporter  
P.O. Box 191  
Tampa, FL 33606

Phone: 813-259-7600 (news)  
Fax: 813-259-7676 (news)  
email: jhollingsworth@tampatrib.com

St. Petersburg Times – Tampa Office  
Neville Green - News Editor  
1000 N. Ashley Drive – Suite 700  
Tampa, FL 33602

Phone: 813-226-3366  
Fax: 813-226-3381  
email: green@sptimes.com

The Sarasota Herald Tribune  
Tom Arthur – News/City Editor  
801 South Tamiami Trail  
Sarasota, FL 34236

Phone: 941-953-7755  
Fax: 941-957-5276 (news)  
email: tom.arthur@heraldtribune.com

(Covers several counties – for news articles, indicate which area and edition)

Florida Sentinel Bulletin  
Gwen Hayes, Editor  
P.O. Box 3363  
Tampa, FL 33601

Phone: 813-248-1921  
Fax: 813-248-4507  
email: editor@flsentinel.com

The Ledger  
Harold Muddiman – Metro Editor  
P.O. Box 408  
Lakeland, FL 33802

Phone: 863-802-7506  
Fax: 863-802-7809  
email: harold.muddiman@theledger.com

The Ledger  
East Polk Edition  
Attn: Jeff Kline – County Editor  
455 Sixth Street, N.W.  
Winter Haven, FL 33881

Phone: 863-401-6960  
Fax: 863-401-6999  
email: Jeffrey.kline@theledger.com

News Chief  
Christie Gilpin – City Editor  
650 Sixth Street, S.W.  
Winter Haven, FL 33880

Phone: 863-294-7731  
Fax: 863-294-2008  
email: christie.gilpin@thenewschief.com

La Gaceta  
Patrick Manteiga - News Editor  
3210 E 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
P.O. Box 5536  
Tampa, FL 33675  
(Large Hispanic readers and Italian)

Phone: 813-248-3921  
Fax: 813-247-5357  
email: lagaceta@tampabay.rr.com

The Polk County Press  
Bill Histed, News Editor  
1020 N. Church Avenue  
Mulberry, FL 33860-2040

Phone/Fax: 863-425-3411  
email: mulberrypress@juno.com

**Television**

Channel 8 – WFLA (NBC)  
Attn: Assignment Desk  
P.O. Box 1410  
Tampa, FL 33601

Phone: 813-221-5788  
Fax: 813-225-2770  
email: news@wfla.com

Channel 28 – WFTS (ABC)  
Newsroom  
4045 N. Himes Avenue  
Tampa, FL 33607

Phone: 813-354-2828  
Phone: 877-833-2828  
Fax: 813-870-2828  
email: newstip@wfts.com

WTVT FOX Channel 13  
Bob Linger – General Manager  
P. O. Box 31113  
Tampa, FL 33631

Phone: 813-876-1313  
Fax: 813-871-3135  
email: news@wtvt.com

BAY NEWS 9  
Tina Karagiannis – Assignment Manager  
7901 66<sup>th</sup> Street, N,  
Pinellas Park, FL 33781

Phone: 727-437-2000  
Phone: 727-437-2100 (news)  
Phone: 888-437-1239 (news tips-toll free)  
Fax: 727-437-2034  
email: tips@baynews9.com

BAY NEWS 9  
Rick Elmhorst / Lynn Wright - Reporters  
1004 U.S. 92 West  
Auburndale, FL 33823

Phone: 863-965-0549 (Polk Cty. news)  
Fax: 863-965-0543  
email: rick.elmhorst@baynews9.com

PGTV - Polk County's Government Television  
Joan Davies – Program Manager  
Drawer CA01  
P.O. Box 9005  
Bartow, FL 33831-9005

Phone: 863-534-5997  
Fax: 863-534-7069  
email: joandavies@polk-county.net

WFSU-TV Channel 11 / The Florida Channel  
Beth Switzer – Executive Producer  
The Capitol Building – Suite 901  
402 South Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300  
FSU Broadcasting Center  
1600 Red Barber Place  
Tallahassee, FL 32310-6068

Phone: 850-488-1281  
Fax: 850-488-4876  
email: b.switzer@mailers.fsu.edu

Phone: 850-487-3170  
Fax: 850-487-3093  
email: mail@wfsu.org

HTV Channel 22 - Hillsborough Television  
Steve Valdez – Acting Station Manager  
P. O. Box 1110  
Tampa, FL 33601

Phone: 813-272-5362  
Fax: 813-276-2691  
email: valdezs@hillsboroughcounty.org

WEDU - Channel 3 PBS TV  
Paul Grove – Station Producer  
1300 North Boulevard  
Tampa, FL 33607

Phone: 813-254-9338  
Fax: 813-253-0826  
email: pgroves@wedu.org

WUSF – Channel 16 PBS TV  
Susan Geiger – Director of Programming  
4202 East Fowler Avenue – TVB100  
Tampa, FL 33620

Phone: 813-974-4000  
Fax: (prefers not to list number)  
email: sgeiger@wusf.org  
www.wusf.org

Channel 10 CBS  
Lane Michaelsen – Vice President (News)  
10 News  
11450 Gandy Boulevard  
St. Petersburg, 33702

Phone: 727-577-1010  
Fax: 27-576-6924 (news)  
email: desk@tampabays10.com

WWSB – Channel 40 (ABC)  
Kay Miller – News Director  
1477 10<sup>th</sup> Street  
Sarasota, FL 34236

Phone: 941-923-6399 (news assign. Desk)  
Fax: 941-923-8709  
email: russo@wwsb.tv (assign. desk)  
email: lschreiner@wwsb.tv (assign. desk)

### **Radio**

Clear Channel Radio Stations  
WFLZ, WSSR, WTBT, WHNZ, WXTB,  
WDAE, WMTX, WFLA  
Don Richards – News Director  
4002 Gandy Boulevard  
Tampa, FL 33611

Phone: 813-832-1000  
Fax: 813-831-6397  
email: donrichards@clearchannel.com

COX Radio, Inc.  
WHPT, WXGL, WSUN, WWRM, WPOI, WDUV  
Jackie Boulay – News/Public Service  
11300 4<sup>th</sup> Street, N. – Suite 300  
St. Petersburg, FL 33716

Phone: 727-579-2000  
Fax: 727-579-2662  
email: jackie.boulay@coxtampa.com

WWBF – 1130 AM  
Tom Thornburg – Owner/News Director  
1130 Radio Road  
Bartow, FL 33830-7600

Phone: 863-533-0744  
Fax: 863-533-8546  
email: tom@wwbf.com

WUSF 89.7 Radio  
Robert Peterson, program Dir./Interim News Dir.  
4202 East Fowler Avenue – WRB 219  
Tampa, FL 33620-6902

Phone: 813-974-8700  
Phone: 800-741-9090  
Fax: 813-974-5016  
email: rpeterson@wusf.org

WONN, WLKF, WWRZ, WPCV Radio Stations  
Andrea Oliver-Clark – News Director  
404 West Lime Street  
Lakeland, FL 33815-4651

Phone: 863-682-8184  
Fax: 863-683-2409  
email: aoliver@halllakeland.com

WRBQ, WLLD, WSJT Radio Stations  
Carrie Kirkland – News Director  
9721 Executive Center Drive, N. – Suite 200  
St. Petersburg, FL 33702  
(Indicate to cover all stations on news items)

Phone: 727-679-1925  
Fax: 727-579-8888  
email: aoliver@halllakeland.com  
www.oldies1047.com

## **Appendix B**

**Q&A Sheet  
EPA Fact Sheet  
Press Release**



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## ***EPA plans pilot radiation assessment in central Florida***

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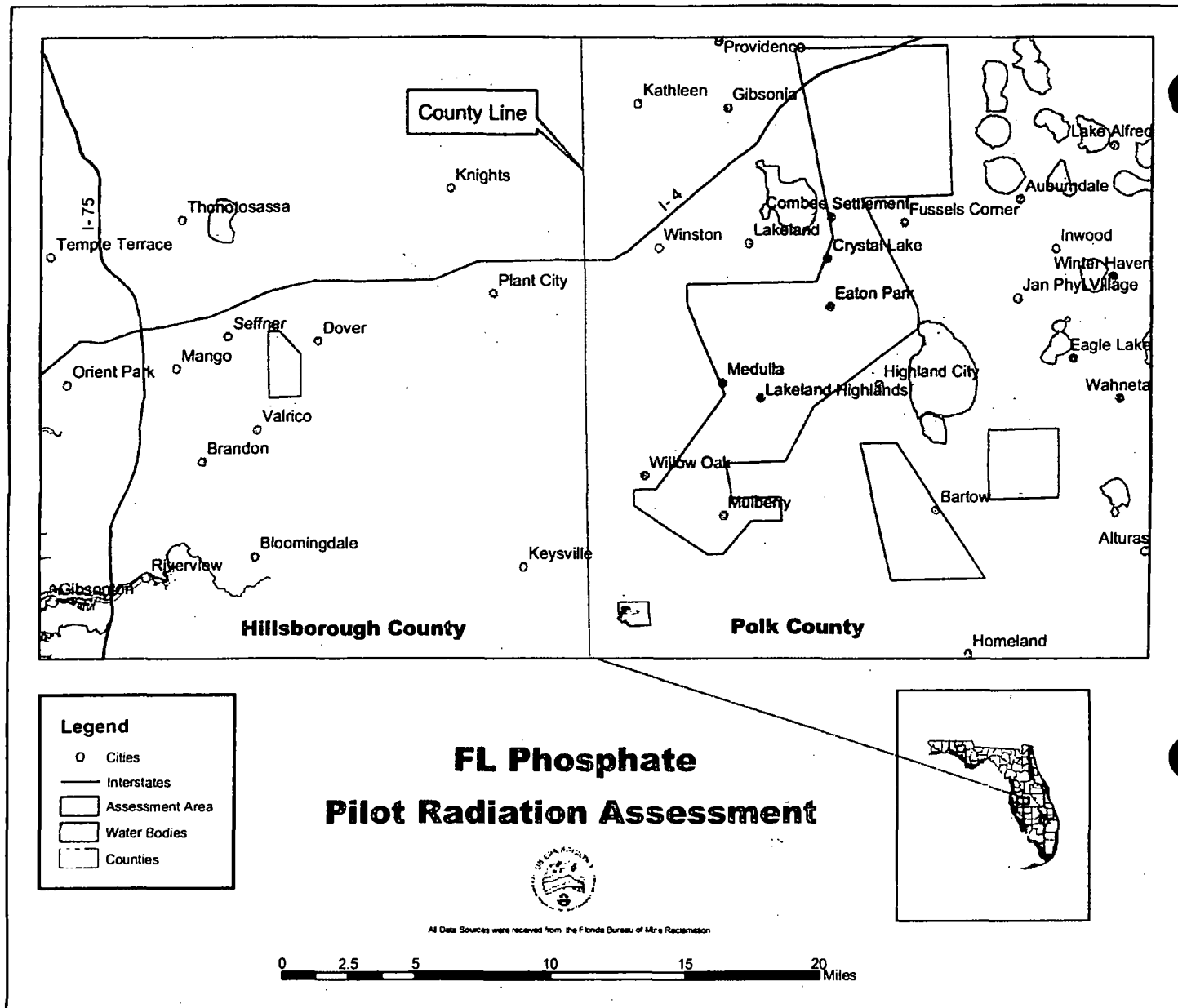
Region 4

May 2004

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Starting May 19, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 4 (EPA) will be flying a helicopter over portions of Polk and Hillsborough Counties to measure gamma radiation. This sheet presents information about why and how the flyovers will be conducted, as well as a map of the assessment area and contacts for more information.

- **Why is the EPA flying a helicopter over areas of Polk and Hillsborough counties?**  
The EPA is checking to see whether areas where phosphate mining once occurred have levels of radiation that are higher than the average for central Florida.
- **How does the helicopter measure radiation?**  
The helicopter is equipped with remote sensing technology that can detect radiation at ground level. The helicopter will fly in a grid pattern over the study area, about 150 feet above the ground, at a speed of 90 mph.
- **When will the flyovers begin and how long will they take?**  
Flyovers are scheduled to begin on May 19. The EPA estimates it will take about 2 weeks to complete flyovers of the assessment area.
- **Exactly what areas are included and why?**  
The map on the back of this fact sheet shows the flight areas, which include approximately 100 square miles in Polk County and 3 square miles in Hillsborough County. The EPA is assessing these areas because they include formerly mined lands that were redeveloped into residential communities.
- **What will residents and businesses see or hear during the flyovers?**  
The helicopter will fly only during daylight hours on weekdays. People living and working in the area may see and hear the helicopter for a few seconds as it passes over.
- **Why would radiation be higher in former phosphate mining areas? What would that mean?**  
Phosphate ore contains material that is radioactive. Phosphate processing concentrates the radioactive material on the ground's surface, where it may remain after mining has ended. If higher than average levels of radiation are present, it does not mean that people are at risk of adverse effects. Measuring the radiation level is the first step in determining the potential for exposure.
- **What are the next steps?**  
After reviewing information from the flyovers, the EPA will prepare a report, which will be available to the public. Assessment areas with results at or below the average for central Florida will be eliminated from further evaluation. If an area has readings that are higher than average levels, the EPA will evaluate the need for additional investigation or other actions.
- **How can we obtain more information?**  
For more information about the assessment, please contact the EPA representatives listed on the back of this sheet. General information about radiation is available online at [www.epa.gov/radiation](http://www.epa.gov/radiation). Information about phosphate mining and radiation is available online at [www.fipr.state.fl.us](http://www.fipr.state.fl.us).



**For more information, please contact...**

**Carol Monell**  
**Chief, Remedial Services and**  
**Technical Support Branch**  
 U.S. EPA Region 4  
 61 Forsyth Street SW  
 Atlanta, GA 30303-8960  
 Phone: 404-562-8719  
 Toll-free: 1-800-435-9234  
[Monell.Carol@epa.gov](mailto:Monell.Carol@epa.gov)

**Carl Terry**  
**Director, Office of External**  
**Affairs**  
 U.S. EPA Region 4  
 61 Forsyth Street SW  
 Atlanta, GA 30303-8960  
 Phone: 404-562-8325  
 Toll-free: 1-800-435-9234  
[Terry.Carl@epa.gov](mailto:Terry.Carl@epa.gov)

**EPA representatives are also available locally at the...**

**Community Information Center**  
**for the**  
**Central Florida Pilot Radiation Assessment**  
 (location to be determined)



United States  
Environmental Protection  
Agency

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# The Headline of the Fact Sheet Goes Here

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Site Name  
City, State

Date

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**Important news you want to highlight  
goes in this text box.**

Examples include:

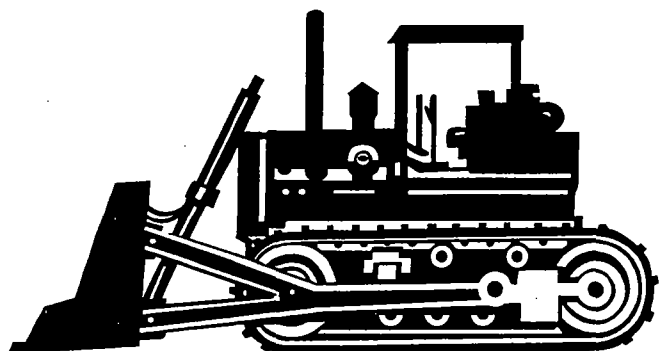
- Next Steps
- Public Meeting announcements
- New EPA staff at site
- Etc....

See the accompanying guidelines and  
sample for instructions developing fact  
sheets.

Insert text here. You will use 11, 12 or 13 point Times  
New Roman type.

## Headline Text

Headline text should be bold 13 point Arial.



*Sample graphic and caption style.*

**For more information, please contact...**

**Name, Remedial Project  
Manager**

U.S. EPA Region 6  
1445 Ross Avenue (Mail Code)  
Dallas, TX 75202  
214-665-XXXX  
Toll-free number  
E-mail Address

**David Bary, EPA Region 6 Press  
Office**

U.S. EPA Region 6  
1445 Ross Avenue (Mail Code)  
Dallas, TX 75202  
214-665-2208  
Toll-free number  
E-mail Address

**Name, Community Involvement  
Manager**

U.S. EPA Region 6  
1445 Ross Avenue (Mail Code)  
Dallas, TX 75202  
214-665-XXXX  
Toll-free number  
E-mail Address

**Name, Other Federal, State or  
Local Agency**

Agency Name  
Address  
Telephone  
E-mail Address

**Name, Other EPA Contact**

U.S. EPA Region 6  
1445 Ross Avenue (Mail Code)  
Dallas, TX 75202  
214-665-XXXX  
Toll-free number  
E-mail Address

**Name, Other Federal, State  
or Local Agency**

Agency Name  
Address  
Telephone  
E-mail Address

**Information Repositories**

**Name of Local Repository**

Contact Person  
Address  
Phone  
Hours of Operation

**Name of State Repository**

Contact Person  
Address  
Phone  
Hours of Operation

**U.S. EPA Region 6 Library**  
Seventh Floor Reception Area  
1445 Ross Avenue, Ste. 12D13  
Dallas, Texas  
(214) 665-6424  
Monday - Friday, 7:30 a.m. to  
4:30 p.m.

**U.S. EPA on the Internet**

U.S. EPA Headquarters  
[www.epa.gov](http://www.epa.gov)


U.S. EPA Region 6  
[www.epa.gov/region6](http://www.epa.gov/region6)

U.S. EPA Region 6 Superfund  
[www.epa.gov/region6/superfund](http://www.epa.gov/region6/superfund)

Use this space for important information, if needed, or leave blank.



United States  
Environmental Protection  
Agency

Region 6  
1445 Ross Ave.   
Dallas, TX 75202

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 3, 2004  
CONTACT: Carl Terry, EPA Region 4 Office of Public Affairs  
Telephone: 404-562-8325

**U.S. EPA set to begin pilot radiation assessment in central Florida**

Starting on May 19, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will be flying a helicopter over portions of Polk and Hillsborough counties to measure radiation. The flyovers are the first step in a project to determine whether radiation levels are higher than the average for central Florida in areas where phosphate mining once occurred. Officials from Atlanta-based EPA Region 4 announced that the pilot radiation assessment will cover approximately 100 square miles of Polk County and 3 square miles of Hillsborough County.

The EPA will complete the assessment using a helicopter equipped with remote gamma radiation sensing technology. The helicopter will fly in a grid pattern over the assessment area, 150 feet above the ground surface, at a speed of approximately 90 miles per hour. With flyovers occurring only during daylight hours on weekdays, the EPA estimates it will take about 2 weeks to complete the assessment.

Radiation comes from natural materials found in phosphate deposits. Phosphate mining and processing concentrates radioactive material on the ground's surface, where it may remain for many years. Since the 1970s, residential development has occurred on land once used for phosphate mining and processing. "We are checking to see whether these formerly mined areas have levels of radiation that are higher than the average for central Florida," said Carol Monell, the EPA spokesperson for the assessment. Monell emphasized that even if radiation is detected, it may not pose a risk for adverse effects. "Measuring the radiation level is the first step in determining the potential for exposure," Monell said.

The Department of Energy Remote Sensing Laboratory, in conjunction with the Argonne National Laboratory of Oak Ridge, Tennessee, is performing the assessment under a contract with EPA Region 4 in Atlanta. After reviewing flyover results, the EPA will prepare a pilot radiation assessment report and make it available to the public.

Assessment areas with results at or below background levels for central Florida will be eliminated from further evaluation. If an area has readings above background levels, the EPA will consider the need for additional investigation or other actions.

General information about radiation can be found online at [www.epa.gov/radiation](http://www.epa.gov/radiation). The Florida Institute of Phosphate Research, a state agency, maintains information about phosphate mining and related topics at [www.fipr.state.fl.us](http://www.fipr.state.fl.us).

###

**Appendix C**

**Office of External Affairs**  
**Draft Communication Plan**  
**for**  
**Central Florida Phosphate**  
**Pilot Radiation Assessment**

**DRAFT COMMUNICATION PLAN****EPA Region 4****Waste Management Division**

June 1, 2004

**Title:** Central Florida Pilot Radiation Assessment**Importance/Visibility:** High**Projected Announcement Date:** October xx, 2004**1. ACTION:**

The Waste Management Division of EPA Region 4 plans to conduct a pilot radiation assessment in central Florida to identify and map former phosphate mining areas that have been redeveloped as residential communities, where radiation levels may exceed background levels for non-mined areas of central Florida.

**2. MESSAGE:**

Over the last 3 years, Region 4 has been evaluating the potential for increased radiation levels across the large areas of central Florida where phosphate mining once occurred. Information from previous radiation testing and investigations of similar sites in the area suggests that radiation levels could be higher than the average background level for central Florida. As a result, the Agency has chosen, as an initial step, to do a pilot radiation assessment of approximately 70,000 acres, most of which is in Polk County, Florida, near Lakeland, with the remainder in Hillsborough County. The assessment will cover both unmined land and formerly mined areas that have been redeveloped as residential communities. The EPA will measure radiation levels on the ground using a helicopter with special remote sensing equipment that will fly in a grid pattern at approximately 150 feet over the area. Assessment results will help to determine areas for further investigation and the potential for chronic health effects from long-term exposures, if radiation levels are elevated.

**3. AUDIENCE/ INTENDED RECIPIENTS OF ACTION:**

State of Florida Departments of Environmental Protection and Health  
Federal and State Elected Officials  
Local Elected Officials (counties and cities in and adjacent to assessment areas)  
Emergency Response Agencies and Airports  
Industry Groups (Florida Phosphate Council and FIPR)  
Interested Environmental Groups  
Community Organizations and Residents in assessment areas

**4. BACKGROUND**

In the mid 1980s, the EPA identified and placed a number of former phosphate mining sites in central Florida on the CERCLIS inventory for further investigation. Because these sites are generally located in sparsely populated areas and do not pose a human exposure risk at present, the EPA has not yet taken further action on the sites, with one exception. In the late 1990s, the EPA investigated the former Tenoroc mine near Lakeland, Florida. Information from this investigation expanded the Agency's

understanding of potential conditions that may exist at other former mining sites in central Florida.

In addition, the Agency has reviewed information and results of previous radiation testing conducted by the State and others. From the mid-1970s to the mid-1990s, testing was conducted at the request of developers on land proposed for residential development to identify the need for special construction techniques to prevent exposure to radiation. Other testing has also been conducted, including aerial radiation surveys and radon testing in homes and buildings. In many cases, results of these previous studies revealed radiation levels above background and/or exceeding risk-based standards for protection of human health.

Region 4 is concerned that lands in central Florida where residential development has occurred over mining areas closed in the 1970s could have elevated radiation levels that may pose a long-term health risk. Although these areas are not included on the CERCLIS inventory, the Agency's priority for the pilot radiation assessment is to focus on populated areas. The EPA is taking this action because the State of Florida has no regulatory provisions to conduct investigations of formerly mined areas; however, the Agency is consulting and coordinating with the State in planning the assessment.

**5. ANTICIPATED REACTION:**

Residents and Property Owners in Assessment Area. The Agency does not believe that residents, workers, or visitors in central Florida are being exposed to radiation levels that would pose an unacceptable short-term or immediate risk. However, the Agency recognizes that notification of the pilot assessment may raise concerns about health effects and/or effects on property values, even before the results are known. Straightforward yet sensitive communication techniques will be used to provide information and address concerns.

Phosphate Industry. The phosphate industry is a major component of the Florida economy, and several companies are seeking permits for new mining operations. Industry representatives may be concerned that news of the pilot radiation assessment will galvanize opposition and/or negatively affect the industry's image. Region 4 has no involvement and takes no stance in the permitting process, and is concerned only with protecting human health and the environment.

Environmental Groups. Certain groups, such as local chapters of the Sierra Club and a Florida group named Manasota 88, are involved in issues related to the phosphate industry. These groups are concerned about the potential effects of contamination from mining operations, and have voiced opposition to new mines in certain areas. The groups may use news of the assessment to support their allegations.

State of Florida. In 1975, the State of Florida established mandatory closure requirements to prevent contamination from closed phosphate mines. State regulatory authority does not extend to potential human health effects associated with mining activities, which is the focus of the EPA assessment. Representatives of FDOH do not believe that radiation in these areas poses a significant risk; however, the agencies are cooperating and providing input to EPA's plans.

**6. OVERALL PRODUCT RELEASE/DISTRIBUTION STRATEGY:**

Region 4 will notify key groups of the pilot radiation assessment 2 weeks before the flyovers begin. Written materials to be used for notification include a press release, Q&A sheet, and fact sheet in standard EPA format. These materials will be faxed or e-mailed to the identified groups according to the distribution plan in the following section. Region 4 also plans to establish a web site for the Central Florida Phosphate Pilot Radiation Assessment. The web site will be accessed through the Region 4 WMD web site, and will include summary information on the assessment, background information on radiation and the phosphate industry, FAQs, and contact information, along with an e-mail/feedback capability for users to contact the EPA.

**7. PRODUCT DISTRIBUTION/ACTION NOTIFICATION PLAN:**

<b>Recipient/ Whom to Notify</b>	<b>Material</b>	<b>Who Will Notify</b>	<b>When</b>	<b>Method of Delivery</b>
Federal Officials	EPA Fact Sheet Q&A Sheet	Kristi Watkins	Public Notification Day	e-mail/fax
State Officials	EPA Fact Sheet Q&A Sheet	Rita Wayco	Public Notification Day	e-mail/fax
Local Officials	EPA Fact Sheet Q&A Sheet	EPA Contractors (Mary Wenska/ Suzanne Zoda)	Public Notification Day	e-mail/fax
Emergency Response Agencies/Airports	EPA Fact Sheet Q&A Sheet	EPA Contractors (Mary Wenska/ Suzanne Zoda)	Public Notification Day	e-mail/fax
Industry Groups	EPA Fact Sheet Q&A Sheet	EPA Contractors (Mary Wenska/ Suzanne Zoda)	Public Notification Day	e-mail/fax
Community Organizations/ Environmental Groups	EPA Fact Sheet Q&A Sheet	EPA Contractors (Mary Wenska/ Suzanne Zoda)	Public Notification Day	e-mail/fax
Media	EPA Fact Sheet Q&A Sheet	Carl Terry	Public Notification Day	e-mail/fax

**8. KEY TECHNICAL CONTACT:**

Carol Monell, Chief, Superfund Remedial and Technical Services Branch 404-562-8719

**9. COMMUNICATION CONTACTS:**

Carl Terry, Office of External Affairs (Media) 404-562-8325

Kristi Watkins, Office of Congressional Affairs (Federal Legislators) 404-562-8395

Rita Wayco, Office of Congressional Affairs (State Legislators) 404-562-8244

**10. STRATEGY APPROVED BY PROGRAM**

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Region 4  
 Waste Management Division  
 Date \_\_\_\_\_

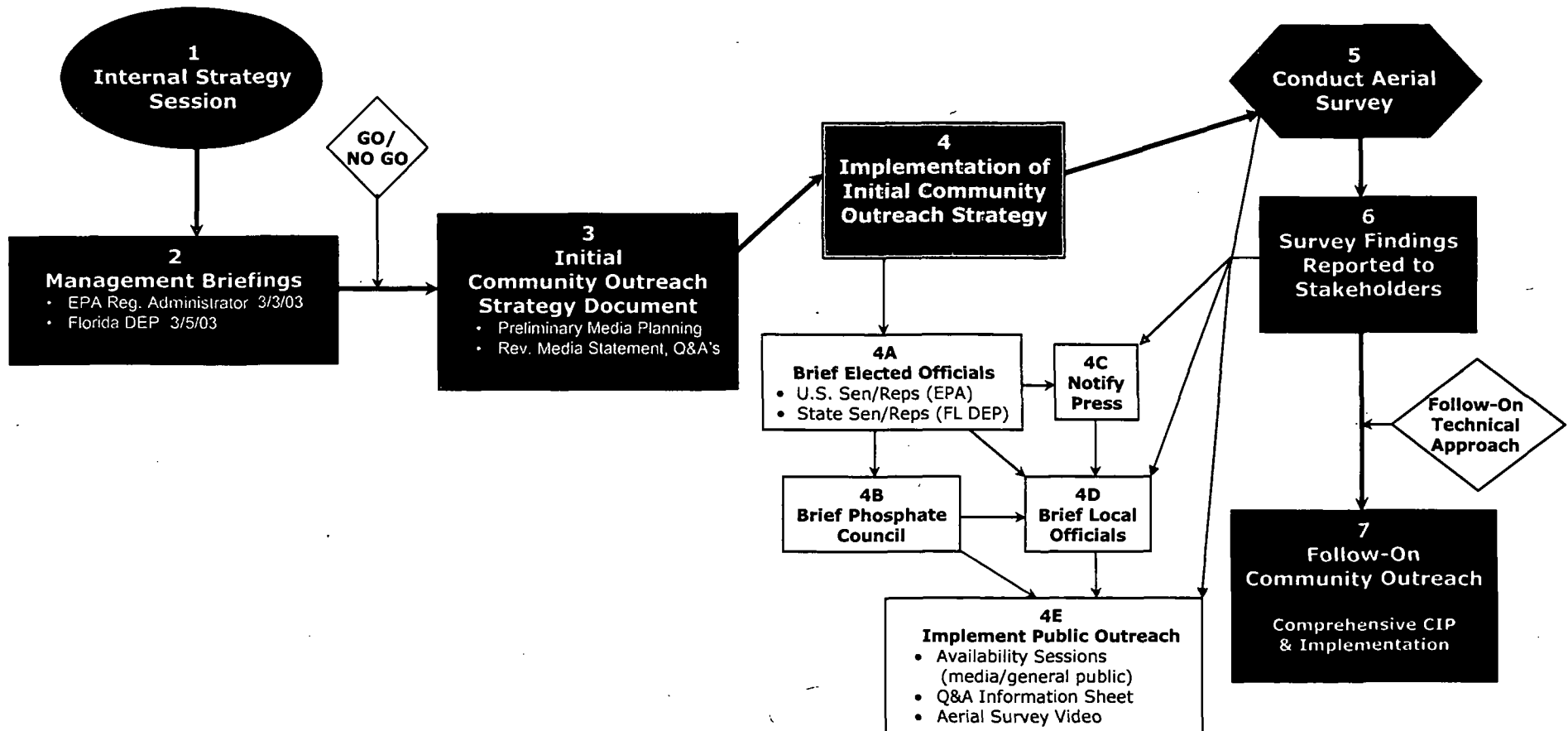
\_\_\_\_\_  
 Region 4  
 Office of External Affairs  
 Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Appendix D**  
**February 2003 Draft Strategy**  
**for**  
**Community Involvement Related to Florida Phosphate Sites**

**Phase I--Community Awareness Before and During  
Pilot Radiation Assessment**

**Phase II—Community Involvement  
Presentation of Assessment Results  
and  
Development/Implementation of Community Involvement Plan**

# Central Florida Phosphate Initiative INITIAL COMMUNITY OUTREACH STRATEGY



# **Central Florida Phosphate Initiative Initial Community Outreach Strategy**

## **Notes for Process Diagram**

### **1. Internal Strategy Session**

- Two-day brainstorming session was held Feb. 19 and 20; participants included EPA Region 4 staff (RPM, CIC, Public Affairs, Congressional Liaison, and others), a Region 8 CI representative with experience at similar sites, CI contractors and meeting facilitators.
- Purpose of the session was to develop a strategy for initiating external communication with project stakeholders; the sensitivity of the project requires careful planning and anticipation of issues that could undermine success.
- Session yielded lists of potential project and community issues, stakeholders, preliminary mission statement, numerous ideas for initial community outreach, and a draft process diagram for community outreach.

### **2. Management Briefings**

- Brad Jackson will brief the Region 4 Administrator on Monday, March 3, to obtain commitment for the project.
- Brad Jackson has scheduled a meeting with representatives of FDEP on March 5 to explain EPA's proposed technical approach. He also will outline the initial community outreach strategy and seek FDEP input.

**Decision: GO/ NO GO** (based on feedback from Management Briefings)

### **3. Initial Community Outreach Strategy Document**

- Strategy document will be prepared to guide initial contact with stakeholders before EPA conducts the planned aerial survey. Participants at the strategy session agreed that this is critical to the ultimate success of the project.
- Activities will be described and prioritized, and an initial contact list of stakeholders will be compiled. Strategy will include a time line for implementing the activities before and during the aerial radiation survey.
- Activities are likely to include briefings for elected officials (federal, state, and local), briefings for phosphate industry representatives, contacting local media and issuing press release(s), media availability session, contacting environmental, civic, and neighborhood groups, public availability sessions, developing a project web site, preparing information sheets, and other activities.
- The strategy will be implemented before traditional Superfund community involvement planning, which would occur after the initial aerial survey.

- **Preliminary Media Planning :** A draft standby or desk statement will be prepared; it will be used if EPA is contacted by the media, local officials, or public as a result of leaked information before initial community outreach activities begin.
- **Revised Media Statement; Q&As:** Standby statement will be revised and a list of potential questions and answers will be prepared for use during initial community outreach activities.

#### 4. Implementation of Initial Community Outreach Strategy

- Participants at the February 19 and 20 strategy session developed ideas for the first activities to be incorporated into the community outreach strategy document. The purpose of initial outreach activities will be (a) to explain EPA's approach in a manner that avoids raising undue concern and (b) to seek feedback on its technical approach and input on outreach activities.
- **4A: Brief Elected Officials:** EPA Congressional Liaison or Reg. Administrator staff will brief the U.S. Senators and Congressional representatives. EPA will ask FDEP to take the lead and will offer support for briefing state senators and representatives.
- **4B: Brief Phosphate Council:** This should take place immediately after briefing federal and state elected officials. EPA will ask FDEP to assist in joint briefing for industry council group (not individual companies).
- **4C: Notify Press:** A press release will be issued immediately after the above briefings are concluded. EPA will also schedule a media availability session. If possible, a video clip of a survey helicopter will be provided to TV stations.
- **4D: Brief Local Officials:** EPA will brief county commissioners and key city officials in the six-county area. Briefings will be done on a county by county basis. Timing will be as soon as possible after media notification.
- **4E: Implement Public Outreach:** Potential activities include meeting with key civic, environmental, and neighborhood groups; holding public availability sessions in several locations in the six-county area; a website may be developed, with photos or video of survey equipment and explanations of EPA activities.

#### 5. Aerial Survey

- Work plan preparation.
- Work plan revisions based on comments from federal, state, and local community officials/regulators; phosphate industry sources (NCRP, FIPR, etc.); other appropriate reviewers (possibly community groups)
- **Contacts with media, officials, and general public will be continued as needed while the aerial survey is being done.**

## **6. Survey Findings Reported to Stakeholders**

- State/federal/peer review of survey results.
- **Results presented to stakeholders through fact sheets, briefings, press releases, public availability sessions, website, and/or other appropriate communication activities.**

**Decision: Follow-On Technical Approach** (will depend on aerial survey findings)

## **7. Follow-On Community Outreach/ Comprehensive CIP**

- If EPA determines that additional technical investigations are needed due to the survey findings, a comprehensive Community Involvement Plan will be prepared according to EPA Superfund guidelines. Community interviews will be conducted as the first step in preparing the CIP. Additional activities may include community advisory groups or task forces, technical assistance grants or technical assistance plans, and local EPA office.